

Summary

As stated above, applicant respectfully submits that 1) application number 08/636,024 and U.S. Patent No. 5,451,892 of Bailey have conflicting claims corresponding to the proposed counts set forth above; 2) claims 37-60 of the present application are believed to be in condition for allowance; and 3) U.S. Patent No. 5,451,892 of Bailey and application number 08/636,024 are not commonly owned. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that an interference should be declared between application no. 08/636,024 and U.S. Patent No. 5,451,892 of Bailey.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application has an effective filing date earlier than that of Bailey and thus applicant Pippin would be the senior party if an interference is declared.

If a telephone conversation would facilitate resolving any outstanding issues, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 684-6200.

If there are any additional charges associated with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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William D. Davis
William D. Davis
Reg. No. 38,428

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 684-6200